

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

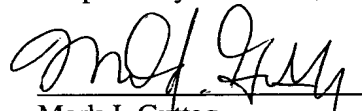
Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during a September 15, 2004, telephone interview (Examiner Interview) in which the objection to the Abstract and the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action was discussed. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is contained in the comments below and in Applicants' Response to the Restriction Requirement filed concurrently with the present Amendment.

In the Office Action, the Abstract of the Disclosure was objected to because it repeated the title of the present application. This objection has been obviated by the above amendments to the Specification/Abstract that were discussed with the Examiner during the Examiner Interview and that the Examiner agreed would obviate the objection to the Abstract of the Disclosure.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding the present response, the Examiner is invited to contact Mark J. Guttag at 703-591-2664, Ext. 2006.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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